# RENOVATION OF THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER BAGHDAD, IRAQ

SUSTAINMENT ASSESSMENT

SIGIR PA-09-168 January 13, 2010

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**Report Documentation Page** 

Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188 Special Inspector General for IRAQ Reconstruction

## Summary of Report: PA-09-168

### Why SIGIR Did this Study

SIGIR is charged to conduct assessments of Iraq reconstruction projects funded with amounts appropriated or made available by the U.S. Congress. SIGIR assessed this project to provide real-time information on relief and reconstruction to interested parties to enable appropriate action, when warranted.

The objective of this sustainment assessment was to determine whether the project is operating at the capacity stated in the original contract. To accomplish the objective, the assessment team determined whether the project was at full capability or capacity when accepted by the U.S. government, when transferred to Iraqi operators, and during the site inspection.

#### What SIGIR Recommends

SIGIR recommends that the Commanding General, Multi-National Force-Iraq (MNF-I):

- Update this project in IRMS with the most current information. Updates should include percentage complete, total construction cost, and date of completion.
- 2. Determine the value of contract-required work not performed and goods not provided by the contractor and recover this amount from the contractor.

#### **Management Comments**

SIGIR received comments on the draft of this report from the MNF-I concurring with comment with the recommendations in the report. MNF-I also provided technical comments for clarification.

#### **Evaluation of Comments**

MNF-I comments addressed Recommendation 1. MNF-I's response to Recommendation 2 was that the contractor performed work for all of the \$1,740,772 it was paid. However, SIGIR noted civil work and landscaping work not performed by the contractor for which payment was made, as well as lack of documentation for the number of uniforms and ceremonial weapons provided to the Iraqi Military Honor Unit. SIGIR revised Recommendation 2 and requested MNF-I to determine the value of contract required work not performed and goods not provided by the contractor and recover this amount from the contractor.

For more information, contact SIGIR Public Affairs at (703) 428-1100 or PublicAffairs@sigir.mil

## Renovation of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

#### What SIGIR Found

After the fall of the Saddam Hussein regime in 2003, an important monument in Baghdad, the Iraqi Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, was looted and damaged. In 2006, the U.S. military awarded a contract under the Commander's Emergency Response Program (CERP) to fully renovate the landmark and provide the Iraqi Military Honor Unit with ceremonial uniforms.

SIGIR determined that the project file did not contain all documentation required by the contract and applicable CERP guidance, such as payment documentation and quality assurance reports. The lack of payment documentation resulted in confusion as to the amount of CERP funding disbursed for this project. Eventually, Multi-National Corps-Iraq representatives researched the Army's Standard Finance System and found that the actual amount paid to the contractor was \$1,740,772.

In addition, without quality assurance reports, and project photographs, SIGIR could not determine the contractor's construction practices during the course of the project, the actual amount of work completed, or the condition of the project when it was completed.

The contract required installation of an oil proofing system to ensure that the fountain did not leak, which was not performed nor were damaged tiles replaced. The contract also required sodding of all garden sections with St. Augustine grass and planting of date palm trees, which was not done.

A summary of disbursements for the work performed indicates that on 10 January 2007, the civil works and landscaping portions of this project were determined to be 100% complete and that the contractor was paid the entire \$476,000 for civil works and \$155,000 for landscaping. Because the contract Statement of Work did not break down the individual cost of each civil works and landscaping element, SIGIR could not determine the actual value the contractor was paid for work not performed. Further, the summary of disbursements confirmed that the contractor was paid \$300,000 for uniforms and ceremonial weapons; however, the project file lacked documentation to verify the number of uniforms and ceremonial weapons provided to the Iraqi Military Honor Unit.

Based on SIGIR's site visit, review of available project file documentation, and discussions with Honor Unit personnel, SIGIR determined that although the project did not meet all the standards specified in the contract's SOW, the Iraqi Tomb of the Unknown Soldier has been significantly improved by the renovation project.



Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction



## SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION

January 13, 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDING GENERAL, UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND

COMMANDING GENERAL, UNITED STATES FORCES-IRAQ

COMMANDING GENERAL, JOINT CONTRACTING

COMMAND-IRAQ/AFGHANISTAN

DIRECTOR, IRAQ TRANSITION ASSISTANCE OFFICE

SUBJECT: Report on the Renovation of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Baghdad, Iraq (SIGIR Report Number PA-09-168)

We are providing this report for your information and use. It addresses the current status of the Renovation of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Baghdad, Iraq. The assessment was made to determine whether the project was operating at the capacity stated in the original contract.

Comments on a draft of this report from the Multi-National Force-Iraq resolved Recommendation 1 and provided additional clarifying information for the report. Information that the Multi-National Force-Iraq provided with its comments confirmed that the contractor was paid for civil work and landscaping portions of the contract which were not performed as well as a lack of documentation for the number of uniforms and ceremonial weapons provided to the Iraqi Military Honor Unit. SIGIR revised Recommendation 2 to the Multi-National Force-Iraq to determine the value of contract required work not performed and goods not provided by the contractor and to recover this amount from the contractor.

We appreciate the courtesies extended to our staff by the Multi-National Force-Iraq and the Multi-National Corps-Iraq. If you have any questions please contact Mr. Brian Flynn at <a href="mailto:brian.flynn@sigir.mil">brian.flynn@sigir.mil</a> or at 240-553-0581, extension 2485. For public queries concerning this report, please contact SIGIR Public Affairs at <a href="mailto:publicaffairs@sigir.mil">publicaffairs@sigir.mil</a> or at 703-428-1100.

Stuart W. Bowen, Jr. Inspector General

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## Introduction

## **Background**

## Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

Throughout history, countless soldiers have died in wars without their remains being identified. The practice of publicly honoring the unidentified remains of soldiers killed in action resulted from the large number of unidentified soldiers from World War I. Nations developed the practice of creating a symbolic "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier" as a war grave for their unidentified war heroes. Each nation's tomb contains the remains of an unidentified soldier to serve as a symbol for all the unknown dead. The anonymity of the entombed soldier is paramount to the symbolism of the monument – since the soldier's identity is unknown, the remains could be anyone who fell in that nation's service; therefore, it serves as a monument to all of their sacrifices.

In 1920, the United Kingdom became the first nation to bury its "Unknown Warrior" in Westminster Abby; later several nations followed the United Kingdom's example.

### Iraqi Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

The Iraqi Tomb of the Unknown Soldier<sup>1</sup> is said to be inspired by the glorification of a martyr from the eight-year Iran-Iraq War. While many who view the tomb think it resembles a flying saucer frozen in mid-flight, it actually represents a warrior's helmet (on top) and a traditional shield dropping from the dying grasp of an Iraqi warrior (on bottom) (Site Photo 1). An artificial hill is shaped like a low, truncated cone 250 meters (m) in diameter. It is surrounded by slanting triangular section girders covered with marble. Stepped platforms of elliptical form made of red granite lead to the dome and cubic sculpture on the top. Local Iraqis believe that the repeated circular and elliptical motifs echo the ancient city walls of Baghdad, which were circular. The cantilevered dome is 42m in diameter and follows an incline of 12 degrees. The external surface is clad with copper; while its inner surface features a soffit finished with pyramidal modules alternating between steel and copper. A large water basin and fountain envelop the back of the dome where it meets the promenade. The promenade is covered by a semicircular, flat roof supported by a triangular steel bracing. The roof is covered with a copper sheet and the soffit displays V-shaped panels of stainless steel and Murano<sup>2</sup> glass.

The cube beneath the shield is made of seven layers of metal, said to represent the seven levels of Heaven in the Islamic faith. Inside the layers of metal are sheets of red acrylic, said to represent the blood of slain Iraqi soldiers. During the inspection of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction (SIGIR) inspection team, an Honor Unit senior representative stated that an unknown Iraqi soldier from the Iran-Iraq war is entombed in the cube<sup>3</sup>.

While the official name of the facility is "Monument to the Unknown Soldier," the U.S. funded project documentation referred to it as the "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier." For consistency within this report, unless used in a verbatim quotation, SIGIR refers to it by the project name of "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier."

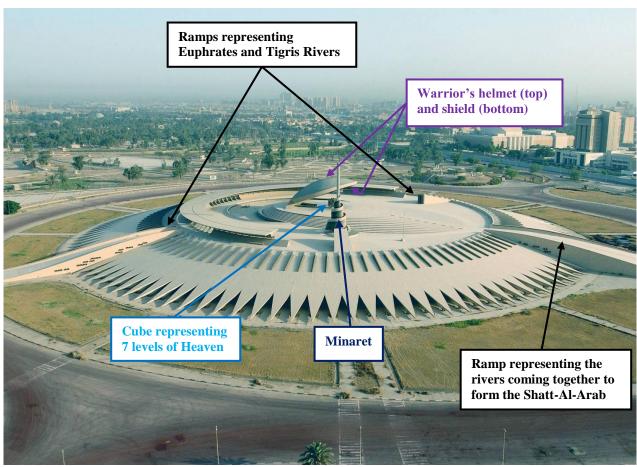
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Murano glass is glass that comes from the island of Murano, which is a small island northwest of the city of Venice, Italy.

Most publications do not believe the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier contains any human remains; therefore, it is often referred to as the Monument of the Unknown Soldier. However, as noted, during SIGIR's site visit, an Honor Unit senior representative stated there are, in fact, human remains from the Iran-Iraq War in the cube.

The steel structure to the left of the dome is meant to resemble the minaret<sup>4</sup> of the Great Mosque in Samarrah built of clay bricks by the Caliph al-Mutawakkil in 852 A.D. The minaret, called al-Malweyyah, is 52m tall and is patterned after the monuments of ancient Mesopotamia. This structure is covered entirely with Murano glass panels fixed on stainless steel arms, which, at night, light up the Iraqi national colors of red, white, green, and black. Prior to the 2003 U.S. invasion, a spotlight shone skyward from the central tube.

Three ramps lead directly from the bottom to the top of the Tomb signifying the Euphrates and Tigress Rivers coming together and merging into the Shatt-al-Arab.

A stairway leads down into the body of the Tomb from behind the cube. On the wall on the first stair landing is the Bismillah, the phrase that begins every sura of the Qur'an (except the ninth): Bismillahi- r-Rahmani- r-Rahim (In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful). The stairs continue down into two large doors which is the entrance to the actual museum. At its center is a large column supporting the cube. Upturned swords imbedded in glass blocks spiral upwards around the column. Arrayed in semi-circles around the column are rows of acrylic cases, which resemble coffins. Prior to the war, Saddam Hussein's personal machine gun was rumored to be on display.



Site Photo 1. Aerial view of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier (courtesy of MNF-I)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Minarets are distinctive architectural features of Islamic mosques.

## **Objective of the Project Assessment**

The objective of this project assessment was to provide real-time information on relief and reconstruction to interested parties to enable appropriate action to be taken, if warranted. Specifically, SIGIR determined whether the project was operating at the capacity stated in the original contract. To accomplish this, SIGIR determined whether the project was at full capability or capacity when accepted by the U.S. government, when it was transferred to Iraqi operators, and when SIGIR inspected the site.

In January 2009, SIGIR reviewed the Iraq Reconstruction Management System (IRMS) database for potential project assessments within Baghdad, Iraq. The IRMS listed the "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier" project as "75%" complete with a Total Construction Cost of \$1,809,288. Therefore, SIGIR announced this project assessment as an "inconstruction" or "on-going construction" assessment. However, subsequent to the issuance of SIGIR's announcement letter, the Multi-National Corps – Iraq (MNC-I) advised SIGIR that the project was actually completed in 2006. Consequently, SIGIR reannounced the project assessment as a sustainment assessment with the above-mentioned objectives.

## **Pre-site Assessment Background**

### **Contract, Costs and Payments**

On 4 July 2006, the Joint Contracting Command – Iraq/Afghanistan awarded Contract W91GEU-06-M-S109, a firm-fixed-price contract in the amount of \$1,756,775, to Bennett Fouch and Associates. This project was funded through the Commanders' Emergency Response Program (CERP). The period of performance to complete this project was 100 days after the contract award. Consequently, the project was to be completed by 12 October 2006.

Contract Modification P00002<sup>5</sup>, dated 12 August 2006, was an administrative modification and did not change the value of the total project cost. The available project file documentation did not contain Contract Modification P00001; consequently, SIGIR could not determine the purpose of this modification.

## **Project Objective**

After the fall of the Saddam Hussein regime in 2003, the Iraqi Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was looted and the infrastructure damaged. The overall objective of this project was to fully renovate the existing Tomb of the Unknown Soldier monument and provide the Iraqi Military Honor Unit (Honor Unit) with appropriate ceremonial uniforms and weapons. According to project file documentation, the need for this project was:

"For cultural reasons there is a need for this monument to be completely refurbished in order to enhance and preserve cultural awareness on this new Iraq era. By repairing and restoring the monument and equipping the Honor Unit with the appropriate ceremonial uniforms and weapons Iraqi citizens will regain a monument with immense cultural value boosting their sense for cultural and artistic pride. With assistance from various academics the monument museum

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> MNC-I provided SIGIR with modification P00002 after the issuance of the draft report.

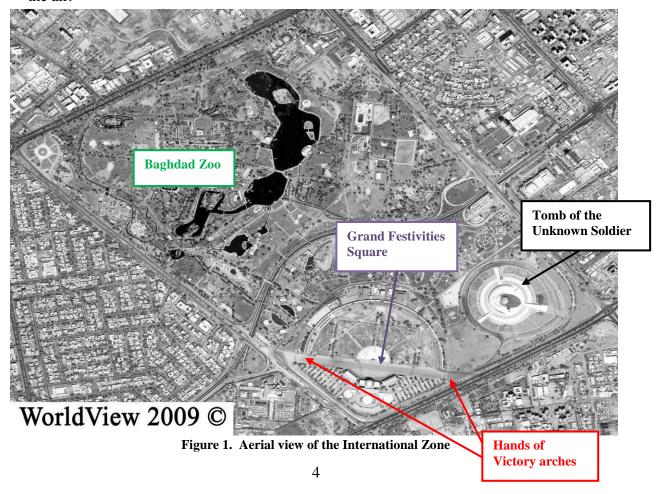
can become an enriching educational display depicting the military history of a modern Iraq."

## **Pre-construction Description**

The description of the facility (pre-construction) was based on information obtained from the CERP project file. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier project site is located in the International Zone, Baghdad, Iraq, near Al Zarwaa Park (Figure 1). Prior to 2003, the Al Zarwaa Park was a sprawling area of concrete canals, an amusement park, and the Baghdad Zoo.

The Baghdad Zoo was home to more than 600 animals and was considered the largest zoo in the Middle East. The park and zoo were closed for renovations in 2002, when Saddam Hussein turned it into a quasi-military base. The zoo was reported to have been significantly damaged during the first Gulf War; however, the primary damage to the zoo resulted from looters following Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003. In July 2003, the zoo re-opened to the public and featured 86 animals, including some of the "pet" lions kept by Uday and Qusay Hussein.

Also located near the Tomb of the Unknown in the Al Zarwaa Park is an area known as the Grand Festivities Square. In 1986, two years prior to the end of the Iran-Iraq War, Saddam Hussein began the construction of the Grand Festivities Square, consisting of a large parade ground, an extensive review pavilion, reflecting pool, and the Hands of Victory Arches that mark the parade ground's two entrances. From the review pavilion, Saddam Hussein was known to review the Republican Guard while firing a weapon into the air.



The official name of the Hands of Victory Arches, the Swords of Qadisiyyah, is an allusion to the historical Battle of Qadisiyyah<sup>6</sup>. The Hands of Victory Arches celebrated Saddam Hussein's "victory" over Iran (Site Photo 2). The pair of triumphal arches marks the entrances to the large parade ground. Each arch consists of a pair of massive hands each holding a 140 foot long sword. A small flagpole rises from the point where the swords meet. The arches were made from the guns of dead Iraqi soldiers that were melted and recast as the 24 ton blades of the swords. The hands and arms of the monument are cast in bronze. The arms rest on concrete plinths, which make the arms appear to burst out of the ground. Each plinth holds 2,500 captured Iranian helmets and are held in nets that spill the helmets onto the ground beneath. Surrounding the base of the arms are 5,000 additional Iranian helmets taken from the battlefield. The monument's hands that hold the swords are exact replicas of Saddam Hussein's own hands. An impression of one of Saddam Hussein's thumbprints was taken and added to the mold for one of the arch's thumbs.

During the dedication ceremony in 1990, Saddam Hussein rode under the Hands of Victory Arches astride a white horse<sup>7</sup>.



Site Photo 2. Hands of Victory arches (courtesy of MNF-I)

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier fell into serious disrepair after the Iran-Iraq War. The museum was looted, the fountains went dry, and the basins cracked. Concertina wire decorated the promenade, and the grounds were overrun by weeds and undergrowth. In

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> This battle was a decisive engagement between the Arab Muslim Army and the Sassanid Army during the first period of Islamic expansion, which resulted in the Islamic conquest of Persia. It has been reported that Saddam Hussein often characterized the Iran-Iraq War after in terms of Battle of Qadisiyah.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> It has been suggested this was an allusion to the steed of the slain Shiite martyr Hussein, killed in Karbala in 680. The martyr Hussein's death caused the rift between Shiite and Sunni Muslims.

addition, two small broken water mains led to flooding of the area, which resulted in the growth of brush and weeds.

### **CERP**

The CERP was established in fiscal year 2003 to provide commanders the ability to respond to urgent humanitarian relief and reconstruction needs in their areas of responsibility by executing a variety of construction and non-construction activities to immediately assist the local population. CERP was intended for small-scale, urgent humanitarian relief and reconstruction projects for the benefit of the Iraqi people, such as water and sanitation, education, and healthcare projects.

CERP guidance established that any project over \$500,000 must be approved by the Multi-National Corps – Iraq (MNC-I) Commanding General. In an undated memorandum, the Commanding General MNC-I approved the CERP-funded project to renovate the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Since the intent of this project did not fall into any of the 19 established authorized uses of CERP funding and it provided for the equipping of the Honor Unit<sup>8</sup>, a legal opinion on the justification of this project was requested from the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, MNC-I. In a 5 June 2006 memorandum, the MNC-I Chief of Procurement and Fiscal Law stated:

"I have no legal objection to the use of CERP funds to repair and restore the tomb of the unknown soldier...DoD Policy Guidance dated July 27, 2005 provides that the CERP program is designed to enable commanders to repair civic and cultural facilities...

Although DoD Policy Guidance provides that funds will not be used to equip Iraqi military forces, this provision of DoD policy is not violated because the clothing and weapons being provided are for ceremonial purposes and cannot be considered security assistance to Iraq."

### **Statement of Work**

The Statement of Work (SOW) required the contractor to:

- refurbish the exterior and interior of the monument and museum grounds
- provide the Honor Unit with appropriate ceremonial uniforms
- provide a maintenance and service plan for the monument

## **Project Design and Specifications**

The SOW broke down the work into these levels of effort:

- civil work
- landscaping
- irrigation/water network improvements
- electrical grid upgrades
- maintenance and service plan

#### Civil Work

For civil works, the SOW required the following:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> CERP guidance specifically forbids funding being used to equip Iraqi military forces.

- industrial cleaning and shining of all external and internal surfaces with power cleaners to remove all pollution build-up, dirt, debris, and dust
- repair damaged or missing floor cast in place concrete tiles, granite and marble, ensuring that the finish on the old and new materials match
- replace damaged or missing coffin glass
- supply and install Tack oil proofing system<sup>9</sup> to the water fountain pit to ensure the fountain does not leak
- repair and replace all damaged tiles (walls and blue ceramic tile in the fountain basin)
- repair interior and exterior items/accoutrements of the museum not mentioned elsewhere to bring the facility to fully functioning condition and a "like new" state

### Landscaping

For landscaping, the SOW required the following:

- level and sod all garden sections of the monument site with St. Augustine grass
- plant shrubs at least five-gallon size and date palm trees at least three meters in height in garden sections of the monument site

### <u>Irrigation/water network improvements</u>

For irrigation/water network improvements, the SOW required the contractor to supply and install the following:

- 4" 75-horsepower pumps
- main irrigation 4" pipes
- irrigation sprinklers
- 4" main and branch valves
- 4" elbows

## Electrical grid upgrades

For electrical grid upgrades, the SOW required the following:

- repair the existing 3-phase, diesel generator 380-220, 50-Hertz, 1000-kilowatt
- reconnect existing medium voltage/low voltage (MV/LV) transformers
- ensure proper grounding of all electrical outlets and transfer boxes

In addition, the SOW required the contractor to supply and install the following:

- 4 x 800 amp automatic transfer switches
- main power boards
- sub-distribution board for the different facilities
- main feeder cables
- interior and exterior lights
- cables for sewage, drainage, and irrigation systems

### *Maintenance and service plan*

For the maintenance and service plan, the SOW required the contractor to provide the following:

• operation and maintenance of the electric generator, network and device facilities

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> A bituminous coating to seal the concrete against water penetration.

- operation and maintenance of landscaping, irrigation facilities, lawn and tree trimming, fertilization, weed killing and vegetation disposal
- high pressure cleaning and shining of the Tomb's floor and walled surfaces to maintain a "like new" appearance
- replacement of all light fixtures and bulbs
- maintenance of electric lines and all equipment required for electric power within the monument and the immediate area

#### Ceremonial Uniforms

The SOW required the contractor to provide the Iraqi Honor Unit with a total of 420 ceremonial uniforms—120 for the Army, 120 for the Air Force, 120 for the Navy, and 60 for Flower and Sword personnel.

The contract provided hand drawn sketches of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier for the landscaping, electrical, and outdoor cabling portions of the SOW. For example, the landscaping sketch included the barely legible locations for the planting of date palm trees and grass (Figure 2). The diagram sketches for the electrical and outdoor cabling were illegible (Figures 3 and 4). In addition, the contract did not require the contract to provide any design submittals for the work outlined in the SOW. Further, the contract did not provide technical specifications, which are needed to designate the quality and capacity of systems to be incorporated into the project. Technical specifications typically designate types and strengths of materials, minimum design standards, erection and placement tolerances, and required construction practices. For example, the contract did not identify the codes and regulations to follow, such as the International Electric Code or British Standard 7671.

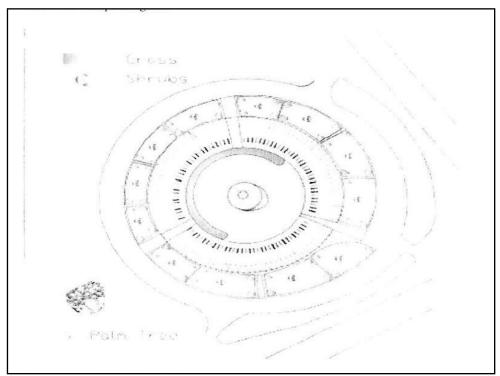
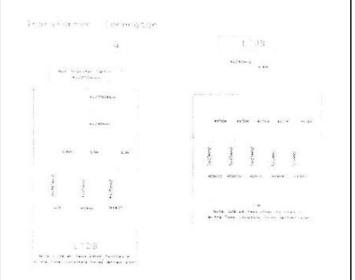
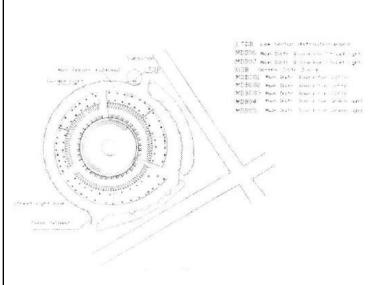


Figure 2. Contract sketch identifying contractor's landscaping requirements





Figures 3 and 4. Contract requirements for electrical grip upgrades

After reviewing the available project file documentation, SIGIR determined that there was insufficient information to adequately perform the renovations required by the contract. Although the contract's poorly illustrated designs and the lack of specifications did not provide the contractor with the necessary information to renovate the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, the renovation was accomplished.

# **Site Progress During Construction and Condition** at Turnover

At the time of the contract's award (July 2006), the CERP was governed by policies and procedures established in the "Commander's Emergency Response Program (CERP) Family of Funds Standard Operating Procedures" guidance <sup>10</sup>. The Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for CERP funds identify the Project Purchasing Officer (PPO) as the direct representative of the contracting officer. The PPO is responsible for managing assigned individual CERP projects and maintaining the project files.

Minimum project file requirements include:

- copy of complete contract,
- all Standard Form 44 or 1034 paid (payment documents),
- Department of Defense Form 250 Receiving Report,
- invoices from vendors.
- project proposal or SOW, and
- any legal opinions

The PPO is responsible for making corrections and providing memorandums explaining lost or illegible documents. In addition, CERP guidance encourages the PPO to include "other documents, pictures, diagrams, as appropriate."

9

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> This guidance was dated 24 April 2006.

The SOP for CERP funds further requires that commanders review individual project files, all disbursement vouchers, and supporting documentation. After this review, commanders are to issue a clearance memorandum stating:

"I have reviewed and approved the projects, and they are complete and adhere to the guidelines set forth in the current MNC-I CERP SOP and applicable FRAGOs."

This clearance memorandum is to be added to the project file.

A second review of the project file documentation is to be conducted by the Major Subordinate Command (MSC) Comptroller's Office to ensure that the project file contains the required documents. After this review, the MSC Comptroller is to provide a clearance memorandum to the PPO stating:

"The following CERP Project is cleared, contractually sufficient, and within the scope of the appointed authority."

This clearance memorandum is also to be placed in the project file.

Once a CERP project is complete, the project is to be reported as closed in the IRMS database. The project status field "will be changed to completed, the % complete field will be changed to 100, the completion date will be inserted in the Actual Completion Date field, and the disbursements will be entered. If funds were de-obligated then the obligations field should also be corrected." The CERP SOP further states that it is "imperative that the IRMS project status reflect accurate amounts committed, obligated, and disbursed for each of the MSCs projects."

The contract for renovation of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier stated that the contracting officer's representative will "perform quality assurance checks throughout performance" and that an "inspection of all requirements will occur on the 100<sup>th</sup> day."

#### IRMS Database Information

As mentioned earlier, the January 2009 IRMS database incorrectly listed this project as 75% complete; yet when SIGIR requested contract and project file documentation for the project, MNC-I informed SIGIR that the project was completed in October 2006. According to the CERP SOP, the IRMS database is critical to the overall success of the CERP program. Specifically:

"IRMS is the central database for reporting all projects initiated under the CERP family of funds while the accounting system tracks all commitments, obligations and disbursements against these CERP projects...Leaders at all levels make decisions for future funding based on these reports. Additionally, these reports are used to provide a Reconstruction Common Operating Picture."

#### Limited Project File Documentation Available

In February 2009, MNC-I informed SIGIR that the project file had been sent to the Third Army at the U.S. Army Central (ARCENT) Coalition Forces Land Component Command, located at Fort McPherson, Georgia. MNC-I formally requested the project file documentation for SIGIR from ARCENT on 26 February 2009.

SIGIR previously visited ARCENT in November 2007 in search of potential CERP projects to assess. ARCENT did not have a filing system for completed CERP project

files. Instead, complete project files were placed into boxes and footlockers and locked in a gated portion of a warehouse (Site Photos 3-5).



Site Photo 3. View of CERP documentation as kept by ARCENT in November 2007





Site Photos 4 and 5. Condition of CERP documentation as kept by ARCENT in November 2007

After approximately seven months, ARCENT retrieved the available file documentation and provided it to SIGIR on 18 September 2009.

SIGIR's review of the project file documentation determined that it did not contain all of the documentation required by CERP guidance and the contract. The ARCENT-provided documentation included the following:

- contract
- SOW
- project funding package
- MNC-I Commanding General's approval
- legal approval

The project file did not contain the following required documentation:

- payment documents
- receiving documents
- contractor invoices
- commander's clearance memorandum
- MSC Comptroller's Office clearance memorandum
- contracting officer's representative quality assurance checks or 100 day (final inspection) report

Without payment documentation, SIGIR was unable to determine the actual amount of CERP funding disbursed for this project based upon the available project file documentation. The October 2009 IRMS database listed the project with a Total Construction Cost of \$1,809,288 and a Construction Earned Value amount of \$1,356,966; while the signed contract amount was \$1,756,775.

#### Additional Project File Documentation Provided by MNC-I

Subsequent to the issuance of the draft report, MNC-I's J8 (Resource Management) representatives provided SIGIR with additional project file documentation, such as Contract Modification P00002, summary of disbursements made to the contractor <sup>11</sup>, one contractor submitted invoice, one disbursement voucher, and one Material Inspection and Receiving Report.

According to J8's documentation, the project's total cost was \$1,740,772, which was \$16,003 less than the signed contract amount. J8's documentation indicated that the contractor performed only 11 of the 12 months of Operations and Maintenance (O&M) service required by the contract, which resulted in the reduction in contract amount.

## Critical Project File Documentation Still Missing

J8's additional documentation still did not include the entire contract and CERP-required invoices, receiving documents, quality assurance and inspection reports, and project photographs. The contract-required final inspection report is critical in determining the work performed by the contractor. Without this documentation, SIGIR could neither determine the contractor's construction practices during the course of the project nor the condition of the project when it was completed. In addition, the contract stated that the one-year warranty period went into effect after the "satisfactory completion" of the final

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> J8 representatives researched the Army's Standard Finance Systems (STANFINS) for this project to determine the actual amount paid to the contractor. STANFINS is the official U.S. Army's accounting system.

site inspection. However, without a final inspection, it is unknown when the warranty period started and ended.

Further, the non-construction portion of the contract required the contractor to provide 420 ceremonial uniforms and weapons, valued at \$300,000, for the Honor Unit. J8's documentation provided summary of disbursements which indicated that the contractor was paid the entire amount of \$300,000 for the uniforms and weapons; however, the project file lacked documentation to verify the delivery of the uniforms and weapons to the Honor Unit.

Finally, the project file lacked turnover documentation to the appropriate Iraqi ministry. Turnover documentation is essential to determining if the Government of Iraq was satisfied with the work performed.

## **Site Assessment**

On 27 October 2009, SIGIR performed an on-site assessment of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier project. Two senior representatives of the Iraqi Honor Unit provided a tour of the project and answered questions regarding work performed by the contractor. Both Honor Unit representatives worked at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier prior to the 2003 invasion, during construction of the project, and after the contractor completed his work. Due to the absence of photographs or inspection reports documenting work completed, SIGIR relied upon Honor Unit representatives to explain work performed by the contractor.

Since the project site is in the International Zone, SIGIR had sufficient time to assess the entire project. At the time of the site visit, according to Honor Unit representatives, the project had been completed for approximately three years.

SIGIR observed Honor Unit personnel conducting daily business, including marching drills and instrument preparation for upcoming official ceremonies.

### Civil Work

The SOW required the contractor to:

- clean all external and internal surfaces
- remove all pollution build-up
- repair damaged or missing concrete tiles
- ensure that the fountain does not leak
- replace all damaged tiles in the fountain basin

At the time of the site visit, the exterior steps and the interior of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were covered in dust, dirt, and debris. However, in the three years since this project was completed, Baghdad has suffered many significant dust storms, which would lead to the accumulation of dust, dirt, and debris at the project site. The Honor Unit representatives stated that the contractor did clean the exterior and interior of the project, and that the present dust, dirt, and debris build-up was the result of dust storms over the years.

According to the Honor Unit representatives, the contractor replaced the previously damaged concrete tiles with matching concrete tiles. While the replacement tiles matched the existing concrete tiles, the Honor Unit representatives stated that the contractor used poor-quality materials. SIGIR observed a significant number of cracked

and/or raised tiles leading up to and around the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier (Site Photo 6).



Site Photo 6. Cracked and raised concrete tiles

With regards to the fountain, the contractor was supposed to install a Tack oil proofing system to ensure that the fountain did not leak. During the site visit, SIGIR observed that the fountain had no circulating water (Site Photo 7). However, according to the Honor Unit representatives, the contractor later stated that the concrete that comprised the fountain was of very poor quality and badly cracked. The contractor's assessment was that the waterproofing system specified in the contract would not bridge the cracks in the concrete, and that water from the fountain would eventually leak into the occupied areas below causing significant damage. The contractor proposed replacing the concrete or placing additional concrete for waterproofing of the fountain at a significant cost increase. Since the contractor stood to profit from the additional work, the objectivity of the contractor's assessment was suspect.

According to the Honor Unit representatives, the U.S. government ultimately rejected this approach because of the additional costs associated with it. As a result, the Honor Unit representatives stated that the contractor did not perform any work on the fountain (either making it leak proof or replacing the damaged tiles). The project file lacked the proposal from the contractor, the decision of the U.S. government, or a modification decreasing the overall cost of the contract due to the elimination of this requirement.

After the site visit, J8 provided SIGIR with the summary of disbursements documentation taken from STANFINS, which indicated that on 10 January 2007, the civil works portion of this project was determined to be 100% complete. Consequently, the contractor was paid the entire amount of \$476,600 even though the contractor did not satisfy the terms of the SOW, such as installing the Tack oil proofing system. STANFINS and SIGIR's site visit confirmed that the contractor was paid for work not performed.

Due to the poorly written SOW, which did not break down individual costs of each civil works element, SIGIR could not determine the actual value the contractor was paid for work not performed.



Site Photo 7. View of fountain – water within the fountain was from recent rain

### Landscaping

The SOW required the contractor to sod all garden sections with St. Augustine grass and plant shrubs and date palm trees in the garden section. SIGIR observed neither St. Augustine grass nor date palm trees (Site Photos 8 and 9). According to the Honor Unit representatives, the contractor planted the grass seeds during the wrong season and the grass never grew; and date palm trees were never planted.





Site Photos 8 and 9. Location where the contractor was to plant grass/shrubs (left) and date palm trees (right)

In response to a draft of this report MNF-I reported that within a week of receiving the report its J8 (Comptroller) office researched this project and was able to find vouchers, invoices, and receiving reports to substantiate all \$1,740,772 disbursed to the contractor. And, based on the receiving reports, J8 determined that the contractor performed the work required for the entire \$1,740,772 paid.

MNF-I did not provide SIGIR with vouchers, invoices, or receiving reports for the landscaping work. The summary of disbursement documentation provided by MNF-I (see Appendix C, page 30) indicated that on 10 January 2007, the landscaping portion of this project was determined to be 100% complete and that the contractor was paid the entire \$155,000 for landscaping. However, SIGIR's site visit and its interview with Honor Unit representatives whom were present before, during, and after the work under the contract was performed indicated that the contractor did not satisfy the terms of the SOW with respect to planting the date palm trees or adequately sodding the garden sections. Because the SOW did not break down the individual cost of each landscaping element, SIGIR could not determine the actual value the contractor was paid for work not performed.

## <u>Irrigation/Water Network Improvements</u>

The SOW required the contractor to improve the existing irrigation/water network system by installing booster pumps, pipes, and sprinklers. Specifically, the SOW-required six 4" 75-horsepower pumps, 7,000 linear meters of 4" irrigation pipes, and 175 sprinklers. While SIGIR did observe sprinkler heads in two sections, the number of sprinklers appeared to be significantly less than the SOW-required 175 (Site Photo 10). According to the Honor Unit representatives, the contractor used the existing pipes instead of supplying and installing the SOW-required 7,000 linear meters of pipe (Site Photo 11).



Site Photo 10. Sprinkler heads

Site Photo 11. Honor Unit representatives stated the contractor used existing pipes

## Electrical Grid Upgrades

The SOW required the contractor to upgrade the existing electrical grid by repairing the 3-phase diesel generator and installing automatic transfer switches, main power boards, main feeder cables, and interior and exterior lights. At the time of the assessment, SIGIR did observe functioning electricity at the facility, which the Honor Unit representatives confirmed came from the national grid. SIGIR noted that the contractor installed manual transfer switches near the diesel generator instead of the SOW-required automatic transfer switches.

SIGIR noticed wiring throughout the facility in both cable trays and conduits. The Honor Unit representatives could not identify if the wiring was original to the facility or installed by the contractor. The Honor Unit representatives stated that the electrical system was functioning satisfactorily. They did note that in several areas with multiple lighting fixtures, light bulbs seemed to have a very short lifespan. This could be indicative of poor wiring design or issues with surging from the municipal system. In addition, the Honor Unit representatives stated that the lighting in the lighted tower of the monument was not functioning correctly, with only half of the lights working.

#### Maintenance and Service Plan

The SOW required the contractor to provide operation and maintenance for the electric generator, landscaping, irrigation, and replacement of light fixtures and bulbs for a period of 12 months.

According to the Honor Unit representatives, the contractor provided on-site personnel for approximately 12 months after work completion. However, the Honor Unit representatives stated that contractor personnel did not perform the majority of the O&M functions required by the SOW; instead the workers focused primarily on limited landscaping (such as pulling weeds). When O&M issues arose, the workers would not accept any direction from the Honor Unit and the contractor was not on site; therefore, the Honor Unit representatives stated that their (Honor Unit) workers had to correct the issues, such as routine maintenance on the generator.

## Ceremonial Uniforms

The SOW required the contractor to provide the Honor Unit with a total of 420 ceremonial uniforms—120 for the Army, 120 for the Air Force, 120 for the Navy, and 60 for the Flower and Sword personnel.

During SIGIR's site visit, an Honor Unit representative stated that he received two sets of ceremonial uniforms (one winter and one summer). The Honor Unit representative stated that the winter uniform was made of good quality material; while the summer uniform was made of poor quality material. In addition, the Honor Unit representative stated that the contractor did supply uniforms; however, the Honor Unit representative did not know if the contractor supplied the required number of ceremonial uniforms.

J8's documentation indicated that the contractor was paid \$300,000 for the uniforms and weapons; however, the available project file lacked documentation to support whether or not the contractor provided the required number of uniforms and weapons. STANFINS only indicates that the contractor was paid on 10 January 2007; yet there are no signed receiving documents certifying the delivery of the required number of uniforms and ceremonial weapons.

#### Possible Condition of the Project

In an effort to determine the condition of the project at or near turnover, SIGIR reviewed the MNF-I website, which contained articles about the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

One MNF-I article provided a photograph of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at night with the lights on the minaret shining (Site Photo 12). This photograph, taken on 7 November 2008, is the best evidence SIGIR could find to document the contractor's electrical work for the project (since the lights did not work prior to this project).



Site Photo 12. Photograph of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on 7 November 2008 (courtesy of MNF-I)

On 7 January 2007, the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was the ceremonial site of the 86<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Iraq Army. Iraqi Prime Minister Maliki and members of the Honor Unit placed a wreath on the Tomb. Site Photo 13 shows two Honor Unit members wearing uniforms similar to the type of uniforms provided under the contract.



Site Photo 13. Prime Minister Maliki, surrounded by Honor Unit representatives wearing ceremonial uniforms at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on 7 January 2007 (courtesy of MNF-I)

## Government of Iraq's Use of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

According to the Honor Unit representatives, the Government of Iraq utilizes the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier site for official ceremonies, such as honoring the Iraqi military and greeting foreign diplomats (Site Photo 14). While the Honor Unit representatives were disappointed with the contractor's performance, they did state that the overall condition of the project site had significantly improved and that the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier has again become a symbol of Iraqi pride.



Site Photo 14. Members of the Honor Unit performing at an official ceremony (Courtesy of MNF-I)

## **Conclusions**

The objective of this project assessment was to provide real-time information on relief and reconstruction to interested parties to enable appropriate action to be taken, if warranted. Specifically, SIGIR determined if the project was operating at the capacity stated in the original contract. To accomplish this, SIGIR determined whether the project was at full capability or capacity when accepted by the U.S. government, when it was transferred to Iraqi operators, and when SIGIR inspected the site.

In January 2009, SIGIR reviewed the IRMS for potential project assessments within Baghdad, Iraq. The IRMS listed the "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier" project as "75%" complete and a total construction cost of \$1,809,288. Therefore, SIGIR announced this

project assessment as an "in-construction" or "on-going construction" assessment. However, subsequent to the issuance of SIGIR's announcement letter, the MNC-I advised SIGIR that this project was actually completed in 2006 and it sent the project documentation to the ARCENT Coalition Forces Land Component Command, located at Fort McPherson, Georgia, for storage. Consequently, SIGIR re-announced the project as a sustainment assessment with the above-mentioned objectives.

SIGIR previously visited ARCENT in November 2007 in search of potential CERP projects to assess. ARCENT did not have a filing system for completed CERP project files. Instead, complete project files were placed into boxes and footlockers and locked in a gated portion of a warehouse. After almost seven months, ARCENT retrieved the available file documentation and provided it to SIGIR on 18 September 2009.

At the time of the contract's award (July 2006), the CERP was governed by policies and procedures established in the "Commander's Emergency Response Program (CERP) Family of Funds Standard Operating Procedures" guidance. SIGIR's review of the project file documentation determined that it did not contain all of the documentation required by CERP guidance and the contract. Specifically, the ARCENT provided documentation did not contain:

- payment documents
- receiving documents
- contractor invoices
- commander's clearance memorandum
- MSC Comptroller's Office clearance memorandum
- contracting officer's representative quality assurance checks or 100 day (final inspection) report

Subsequent to the issuance of the draft report, MNC-I's J8 (Resource Management) representatives provided SIGIR with additional project file documentation. According to J8's documentation, the project's total cost was \$1,740,772.

J8's additional documentation still did not include the entire contract and CERP-required invoices, receiving documents, quality assurance and inspection reports, and project photographs. Without this documentation, SIGIR could neither determine the contractor's construction practices during the course of the project nor the condition of the project when it was completed. In addition, the contract stated that the one-year warranty period went into effect after the "satisfactory completion" of the final site inspection. However, without a final inspection, it is unknown when the warranty period started and ended.

Further, the non-construction portion of the contract required the contractor to provide 420 ceremonial uniforms and weapons, valued at \$300,000, for the Honor Unit. J8's documentation provided a summary of disbursements which indicated that the contractor was paid the entire amount of \$300,000 for the uniforms and weapons; however, the project file lacked documentation to verify the delivery of the uniforms and weapons to the Honor Unit.

Finally, the project file lacked turnover documentation to the appropriate Iraqi ministry. Turnover documentation is essential to determine if the Government of Iraq was satisfied with the work performed.

On 27 October 2009, SIGIR performed an on-site assessment of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier project. Two senior representatives of the Iraqi Honor Unit provided a

tour of the project and answered questions regarding work performed by the contractor. Both Honor Unit representatives worked at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier prior to the 2003 invasion, during construction of the project, and after the contractor completed his work. Due to the absence of photographs or inspection reports documenting work completed, SIGIR relied upon Honor Unit representatives to explain work performed by the contractor.

At the time of the site visit, according to Honor Unit representatives, the project had been completed for approximately three years. SIGIR observed Honor Unit personnel conducting daily business, including marching drills and instrument preparation for upcoming official ceremonies.

According to MNC-I, based upon its review of the receiving reports, "J8 has determined that the contractor performed work for all of the \$1,740,772 paid to the contractor." However, SIGIR's site visit, in conjunction with testimony from the Honor Unit representatives, identified construction deficiencies, such as cracked and raised concrete tiles. In addition, STANFINS documentation along with SIGIR's site visit and testimony from the Honor Unit representatives confirmed that the contractor was paid for SOW-required elements that were not performed, such as the planting of date palm trees and Tack oil proofing the fountain. Due to the poorly written SOW, which did not break down individual cost of each civil works and landscaping element, SIGIR could not determine the actual value that the contractor was paid for work not performed.

Further, the SOW required that the contractor provide 12 months O&M for the electric generator, landscaping, irrigation, and replacement of light fixtures and bulbs. According to the Honor Unit representative, the contractor's workers did not perform the majority of the O&M functions required by the SOW; instead the workers focused primarily on limited landscaping (such as pulling weeds). When O&M issues arose, contractor personnel would not accept any direction from the Honor Unit and the contractor was not on site; therefore, the Honor Unit representative stated that Honor Unit workers had to do O&M functions, such as routine maintenance on the generator.

Finally, the non-construction portion of the contract required the contractor to provide 420 ceremonial uniforms and weapons, valued at \$300,000, for the Honor Unit. STANFINS confirmed that the contractor was paid \$300,000; however, the project file lacked documentation to verify the number of uniforms and weapons provided to the Honor Unit. During the site visit, an Honor Unit representative stated that the contractor did provide him with two sets of uniforms; however, he did not know how many other uniforms were provided.

SIGIR identified an MNF-I article on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, which included a photograph with the lights on the minaret shining. This photograph, taken on 7 November 2008, is the best evidence SIGIR could find to document the contractor's electrical work for the project (since the lights did not work prior to this project).

Honor Unit representatives stated that the Government of Iraq utilizes the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier site for official ceremonies, such as honoring the Iraqi military and greeting foreign diplomats. While the Honor Unit representatives were disappointed with the contractor's performance, they did state that the overall condition of the project site had significantly improved.

Based on SIGIR's site visit, a review of available project file documentation, and discussions with Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Honor Unit personnel, SIGIR determined that although the project did not meet all the standards specified in the contract's

Statement of Work, the Iraqi Tomb of the Unknown Soldier has been significantly improved by the renovation project.

## Recommendations

SIGIR recommends that the Commanding General, Multi-National Force-Iraq:

- 1. Update this project in IRMS with the most current information. Updates should include percentage complete, total construction cost, and date of completion.
- 2. Determine the value of contract-required work not performed and goods not provided by the contractor and recover this amount from the contractor.

## **Management Comments**

SIGIR received comments on the draft of this report from the MNF-I concurring with the recommendations in the report. MNF-I also provided technical comments for clarification. The complete texts of the comments are provided in Appendix C.

## **Evaluation of Management Comments**

SIGIR reviewed the MNF-I comments and revised the final report as appropriate. SIGIR appreciates the technical comments provided for clarification.

#### Recommendation 1.

MNF-I comments addressed Recommendation 1. No additional comments are required for Recommendation 1.

## Recommendation 2.

SIGIR's original recommendation was that MNC-I determine if the contractor was paid for work not performed, and if so, take action to recover unearned amounts.

MNF-I concurred with comment noting that within a week of receiving the draft report its J8 (Comptroller) office researched this project and was able to find vouchers, invoices, and receiving reports to substantiate all \$1,740,772 disbursed to the contractor. And, that based on the receiving reports, J8 determined that the contractor performed work for all the \$1,740,772 paid to the contractor.

However, as noted on page 14 of this report, the contract required installation of a Tack oil proofing system to ensure that the fountain did not leak; this was not performed and damaged tiles were not replaced. Further, as noted on page 15 of this report, the contract required sodding of all garden sections with St. Augustine grass and planting of date palm trees; these items were also not completed.

MNF-I did not provide SIGIR with vouchers, invoices, or receiving reports for the fountain and landscaping work. Only a summary of disbursements and a voucher, invoice, and receiving report for a three-month maintenance period were provided. The summary of disbursement documentation provided by MNF-I (see Appendix C, page 30) indicates that on 10 January 2007, the civil works and landscaping portions of this project

were determined to be 100% complete and that the contractor was paid the entire \$476,000 for civil works and \$155,000 for landscaping. Because the SOW did not break down the individual cost of each civil works and landscaping element, SIGIR could not determine the actual value the contractor was paid for work not performed.

Further, the summary of disbursements confirmed the contractor was paid \$300,000 for uniforms and ceremonial weapons; however, the project file lacked documentation to verify the number of uniforms and ceremonial weapons provided to the Honor Unit.

Consequently, SIGIR revised Recommendation 2 requesting MNF-I to determine the value of contract required work not performed and goods not provided by the contractor and recover this amount from the contractor.

#### CERP Documentation Storage

A response by Multi-National Force – Iraq in their Management Comments identified additional concerns for SIGIR with respect to the storage of CERP documentation. The Multi-National Force – Iraq stated:

"SIGIR discusses the difficulty in their efforts to obtain project file documentation from ARCENT. In contrast, there is no discussion and J8 is unable to determine whether or not SIGIR attempted to contact J8 for any of the project file documentation. While ARCENT was unable to provide all supporting documents for the file, within a week of receiving this [draft] report, J8 was able to obtain disbursement documents, receiving reports, and invoices associated with this project. J8 requests that the documents that the J8 is able to provide be annotated in the report vice the complete lack of documents currently referenced in these pages."

SIGIR adheres to established MNF-I and MNC-I procedures in its audits and inspections process. At the time this inspection was initiated, MNC-I was the established point-of-contact (POC) for CERP documentation. In February 2009, SIGIR provided the MNC-I POCs a list of project file documentation required to perform the project assessment. MNC-I reported that it was undergoing RIP/TOA (Replacement in Place/Transfer of Authority) or transfer of the unit back to the United States and would be unable to perform its POC responsibilities for weeks. When the MNF-I POC was made aware of the situation, it requested the CERP documentation for SIGIR. MNC-I representatives informed MNF-I that the CERP documentation had been transferred to Army Central Command (ARCENT) in Georgia and initiated a formal request for the information for SIGIR.

In addition, SIGIR conducts weekly meetings to discuss the status of each open project. Specifically, these meetings allow SIGIR to brief the Commands' POCs on any outstanding issue, such as the lack of project file documentation. SIGIR briefed weekly that until ARCENT could locate and provide the project file documentation, it could not perform the project assessment. In conjunction with weekly in person meetings, SIGIR also produces a "Weekly POC Report" that is electronically sent to the established POCs for each Command and U.S. government agency. This report also documents the status of each SIGIR Inspections project. Since February 2009, this report has included information for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier indicating that:

- MNC-I to provide data in lieu of an entrance briefing because of RIP/TOA (Replacement in Place/Transfer of Authority).
- MNC-I made RFI to ARCENT (Third Army).
- ARCENT point-of-contact from CENTCOM for the RFI established.

• ARCENT taking action to locate project and contract file documents

MNF-I and MNC-I established the process of coordination of documentation requests through their POCs to improve efficiency and effectiveness. The POCs understand their organizations and efficiently and effectively channel requests for documentation while at the same time avoiding duplication of requests for documentation and the overburdening of their staffs. The MNF-I response that its J8 office had CERP documentation for this project indicates that though SIGIR followed the established procedure, MNF-I and MNC-I POCs did not coordinate SIGIR's request for documentation through all of the responsible MNF-I and MNC-I units.

Further, SIGIR is concerned that project specific documentation, readily available to J8, was not sent to ARCENT as required by Appendix C-15-1 of the MNC-I SOP, Money as a Weapon System, dated 1 June 2007 and Appendix B-1-3 of the revised SOP, dated 26 January 2009. Both require that completed CERP project files be forwarded to ARCENT after one year.

ARCENT provided its complete hardcopy files, which consisted of the following:

- contract
- SOW
- project funding package
- MNC-I Commanding General's approval
- legal approval

Yet, J8 was later able to locate an invoice, disbursement, and a Material Inspection and Receiving Document (see Appendix C). It is not clear why this documentation is currently available in Iraq for a project that was completed over three years ago. In addition, it is unknown why ARCENT did not have this documentation in its hardcopy file.

To date, approximately \$3.5 billion in CERP funding has been allocated for projects providing urgent humanitarian assistance to the Iraqi people. CERP guidance requires that project specific documentation, such as invoices, disbursements, inspections reports, and turnover agreements, be kept indefinitely to provide a historical accounting for the expended funds. Critical elements for safeguarding CERP project files include a central storage location and policies and procedures for storage.

## Appendix A. Scope and Methodology

SIGIR performed this project assessment from January 2009 through November 2009 in accordance with the Quality Standards for Inspections issued by the Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency. The assessment team included two engineers/inspectors and two auditors/inspectors.

In performing this project assessment, SIGIR:

- Reviewed documentation, including the contract and Statement of Work;
- Interviewed personnel from the Iraqi Honor Unit; and
- Conducted an on-site assessment and documented results of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier project in the International Zone, Baghdad, Iraq.

## Appendix B. Acronyms

ARCENT Army Central Command

CERP Commanders' Emergency Response Program

IRMS Iraq Reconstruction Management System

m Meter

MNC-I Multi-National Corps – Iraq
MNF-I Multi-National Force – Iraq
MSC Major Subordinate Command

O&M Operation and Maintenance

POC Point-of-Contact

PPO Project Purchasing Officer

RIP/TOA Replacement in Place/Transfer of Authority

SIGIR Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction

SOP Standard Operating Procedure

SOW Statement of Work

STANFINS Standard Finance System

#### SIGIR draft report Renovation of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Baghdad, Iraq 09-168

#### MNF-I Response and Comments on the Report

SIGIR recommends the Commanding General, Multi-National Corps-Iraq:

1) Update this project in IRMS with the most current information. Updates should include percentage complete, total construction cost, and date of completion.

MNF-I RESPONSE: Concur with comment. Following the exit brief for this audit, J8 provided SIGIR with the information in question. J8 will provide J7 with the actual disbursement amount (\$1,740,772) and the date of the final payment (17 July 2008) so that J7 can update the IRMS database. The final payment represents 100% completion.

2) Determine if the contractor was paid for work not performed, and if so, take action to recover unearned amounts.

MNF-I RESPONSE: Concur with comment. Within a week of receiving the draft copy of this audit report, J8 researched this project and was able to find vouchers, invoices, and receiving reports to substantiate all \$1,740,772 disbursed to the contractor. Based on the receiving reports, J8 has determined that the contractor performed work for all of the \$1,740,772 paid to the contractor.

#### GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE REPORT

- 1. (U) Page I, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph SIGIR notes "the file project did not contain all documentation required by the contract and standard operating procedures for CERP, such as payment documentation and quality assurance inspection reports. Without payment documentation, SIGIR was unable to determine the actual amount of CERP funding disbursed for this project." The statement is misleading and should be considered for removal. Within a week of receiving the draft copy of this audit, J8 was able to obtain disbursement documents, receiving reports, and invoices for this project and provided SIGIR with the actual disbursements paid to the contractor. It is not until three paragraphs later that SIGIR briefly mentions that: "after consulting with MNC-I, J8 was able to determine the actual amount paid to the contractor." Recommend that this preceding statement should be moved into the second paragraph which discusses the contract cost.
- 2. (U) Page I, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraphs SIGIR notes that they "could not determine the actual work completed on the project, nor verification that the uniforms and weapons were provided to the honor unit." J8 was able to find receiving reports for all disbursements for this project in the amount of \$1,740,772. This amount included the renovation of the tomb, delivery of the uniforms and weapons, and 11 to 12 operation and maintenance months. Therefore, SIGIR's comments should reflect the fact that we do have documentation showing what work was completed and there are payment documents on file for all funds disbursed. In addition, during discussions of this project, SIGIR personnel indicated that the ceremonial uniforms and weapons have been clearly observed by the guards of the tomb. These observations are not referenced in the report however no such references are provided.

- 3. (U) Pages 4 and 5 In passages on these pages, there are discussions of other cultural/civic sites to include the Baghdad Zoo, Al Zarwaa Park, and the Swords of Qadisiyyah. All of these sites have nothing to do with the renovation of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and these references have no importance concerning this audit of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and should be considered for removal.
- 4. (U) Page 6, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph SIGIR states "the intent of this project did not fall into any of the 19 established authorized uses of CERP funding and it provided for the equipping of the honor unit." After reviewing a version of the MAAWS guidance, dated 1 October 2005, J8 found that "repair of civic and cultural facilities" was, in fact, a CERP category at the time this project was initiated. The renovation of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier legitimately falls under this category. SIGIR is correct concerning the issue equipping the honor unit raises, but the legal opinion did quell this controversy.
- 5. (U) Pages 9-10 SIGIR highlights CERP standard operating procedures. J8 is concerned where these procedures were taken from. It appears they were taken from recent guidance found in the MAAWS instruction. While statements made by SISGIR are correct that obligating documents, disbursement documents, receiving reports, invoices, statements of work, and legal opinions are generally required for any payment/project file; items such as memorandums explaining lost or illegible documents, pictures, diagrams, maps, commanders' clearance memorandums and MSC G-8 clearance memorandums were not a part of the standard operating procedures prescribed by the MAAWS guidance in effect at the time this project was executed. Recommend these comments be removed from the report.
- 6. (U) Pages 10-12 SIGIR discusses the difficulty in their efforts to obtain project file documentation from ARCENT. In contrast, there is no discussion and J8 is unable to determine whether or not SIGIR attempted to contact J8 for any of the project documentation. While ARCENT was unable to provide all supporting documents for the file, within a week of receiving this report, J8 was able to obtain disbursement documents, receiving reports, and invoices associated with this project. J8 requests that the documents that the J8 is able to provide be annotated in the report vice the complete lack of documents currently referenced in these pages.
- 7. (U) Page 12, 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph SIGIR suggests they were unable to determine the actual amount of CERP funding disbursed for this project. J8 has provided this information and ask that this paragraph be re-worded to reflect that point.
- 8. (U) Page 12, 6<sup>th</sup> paragraph- SIGIR states that there is no file documentation for the uniforms and weapons. Despite the current evidence in the form of observations and payment vouchers provided, MNF-I questions why the inspectors did not directly ask guard personnel, who worked at the Tomb, if they had received uniforms. This seems to be a logical step that is not mentioned or covered in the actions taken by inspectors.
- 9. (U) Pages 19-20 Due to the evidence presented in this response and comments, we request that SIGIR review and redraft their comments and conclusions. Specifically:

Page 19,  $4^{th}$  paragraph – The author notes that the MSC G8 and commander's clearance memorandum were absent from the file, but as noted above, these requirements were not in place at the time this project was executed.

Page 19,  $5^{th}$  paragraph – J8 has now provided ample evidence that supports the actual project cost/disbursements in the amount of \$1,740,722.

Page 19,  $6^{th}$  paragraph – SIGIR states that they could not determine the actual amount of work completed, but with the receiving reports provided by J8, SIGIR should be able to ascertain that at least all renovations were completed, uniforms were delivered, and 11/12 operation and maintenance was completed.

Page 20, 6<sup>th</sup> paragraph – SIGIR states there is insufficient evidence to verify if uniforms and weapons were provided to the honor unit. The receiving report and visual observation for these items should provide at least some level of evidence, but MNF-I feels that this is not insufficient.

10. (U) The following is a summary of the documentation j8 was able to find concerning the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier CERP project.

Summary of Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Documentation

	Contra	cted Amount	Receiving Reports	Paid on Voucher #s	Date Voucher Paid
CLIN 0001	Electric Work	\$419,50	00		
	25% Complete		\$104,875	233022	12-Sep-06
	50% Complete		\$104,875	233332	21-Sep-06
	75% Complete		\$104,875	233651	24-Oct-06
	100% Complete		\$104,875	234420	10-Jan-07
CLIN 0002	Landscaping	\$155,00	00		
	25% Complete		\$38,750	233022	12-Sep-06
	50% Complete		\$38,750	233332	21-Sep-06
	75% Complete		\$38,750	233651	24-Oct-06
	100% Complete		\$38,750	234420	10-Jan-07
CLIN 0003	Irrigation Repair	\$213,67	75		
	25% Complete		\$53,418	233022	12-Sep-06
	50% Complete		\$53,418	233332	21-Sep-06
	75% Complete		\$53,418	233651	24-Oct-06
	100% Complete		\$53,418	234420	10-Jan-07
CLIN 0004	Civil Works	\$476,60	00		
	25% Complete		\$119,150	233022	12-Sep-06
	50% Complete		\$119,150	233332	21-Sep-06
	75% Complete		\$119,150	233651	24-Oct-06
	100% Complete		\$119,150	234420	10-Jan-07
CLIN 0005	Uniforms	\$300,00	00 \$300,000	234420	10-Jan-07
CLIN 0006	Maintenance	\$192,00	00 \$176,000	236494	11-Jul-07
				237178	23-Aug-07
				237192	26-Oct-07
				224756	17-Jul-07
				235895	25-Apr-07
TOTAL		\$1,756,77	5 \$1,740,772		

APPROVED BY: JOSEPH ANDERSON BRIGADIER GENERAL, US ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF PREPARED BY: Matthew LaChapelle LCDR, USN USF-I IG, 485-5622

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<b>CLIN 0001</b>	Electric Work	\$419,500			
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	75% Complete		\$104,875	233651	24-Oct-06
	100% Complete		\$104,875	234420	10-Jan-07
CLIN 0002	Landscaping	\$155,000			
	25% Complete		\$38,750	233022	12-Sep-06
	50% Complete		\$38,750	233332	21-Sep-06
	75% Complete		\$38,750	233651	24-0ct-06
	100% Complete		\$38,750	234420	10-Jan-07
CLIN 0003	Irrigation Repair	\$213,675			
	25% Complete		\$53,418	233022	12-Sep-06
	50% Complete		\$53,418	233332	21-Sep-06
	75% Complete		\$53,418	233651	24-Oct-06
	100% Complete		\$53,418	234420	10-Jan-07
CLIN 0004	Civil Works	\$476,600			
	25% Complete		\$119,150	233022	12-Sep-06
	50% Complete		\$119,150	233332	21-Sep-06
	75% Complete		\$119,150	233651	24-Oct-06
	100% Complete		\$119,150	234420	10-Jan-07
CLIN 0005	Uniforms	\$300,000	\$300,000	234420	10-Jan-07
CLIN 0006	Maintenance	\$192,000	\$176,000	236494	11-Jul-07
				237178	23-Aug-07
				237192	26-Oct-07
				224756	17-Jul-07
				235895	25-Apr-07
TOTAL		\$1,756,775	\$1,740,772		

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# Statement of Work (SOW) Iraqi Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Honor and Pride Restored

## DEPTH PROVENTED FORMS

The fall of Saddan. Hossen in 2003, the lead 1 rad of the Unknown Soldier was looted and manastructure was damage. For cultural reasons there is a need for this monument to be completely refurbished in order to enhance and preserve cultural awareness on this new Iraq era. The Honor Military Unit responsible to perform this exclusive duty is not well equipped either. By repairing and restoring the monument and empiricipate of Honor Unit with the appropriate ceremonial uniforms and weapons Iraqi citizens and amonument with immense out trade to boosting the restoring trade and amonument with immense out trade to accomment to the assistance from various according to accomment the management of a modern large.

#### OU PREMING EXCOPE

The work to be performed will be to refurbishing the second interior of the monument and museum arounds as detailed throughout this SOV is a second interior of the monument that the rection and exterior endicated by the month and provide the military honor unit with appropriate ceremonial uniforms, and provide a maintenance and service plan for the monument. The contractor shall have a site supervisor on site when ever work is conducted. The Contractor shall furnish all supplies and equipment. Any requested change to this scope of work must first be submitted to the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) and approved in writing by the

2 AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO.		3. EFFECTIVE DATE	4. REQUISITION FOR PLASE REQ. NO.		
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## **Appendix E. Project Assessment Team Members**

The Office of the Assistant Inspector General for Inspections, Office of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, prepared this report. The principal staff members who contributed to the report were:

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